

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A laminate comprised of a thermoplastic substrate layer, a clear coat layer, and a tie layer comprised of an adhesive-enhancing effective amount of a styrenic block copolymer which adhesively bonds said substrate and clear coat layers one to another.
2. The laminate of claim 1, wherein said styrenic block copolymer is branched.
3. The laminate of claim 1, wherein said styrenic block copolymer is linear.
4. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the tie layer further comprises a blend of said styrenic block copolymer and a tackifier.
5. The laminate of claim 4, wherein the tackifier comprises a terpene resin.
6. The laminate of claim 5, wherein the terpene resin is present in an amount between about 30 wt.% to about 70 wt.% based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and the tackifier.
7. The laminate of claim 5, wherein the terpene resin is present in an amount between about 40 wt.% and 60 wt.% based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and the tackifier.

8. The laminate of claim 5, wherein each of the tackifier and the styrenic block copolymer is present in an amount of about 50 wt.%, based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and tackifier.

9. The laminate of claim 1 or 5, wherein the substrate layer is a thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO).

10. The laminate of claim 9, wherein the clear coat layer is a polyvinyl fluoride (PVF).

11. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the clear coat layer is a polyvinyl fluoride (PVF).

12. A method of making a laminate comprising forming a prelaminate by interposing a tie layer comprised of an adhesive-enhancing effective amount of a styrenic block copolymer between a thermoplastic substrate layer and a clear coat layer, and subjecting the prelaminate to elevated temperature and pressure sufficient to adhesively bond the substrate and clear coat layers one to another.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said step of interposing the tie layer includes dissolving the styrenic block copolymer in a solvent, applying a solution of the solvent and styrenic block copolymer onto a surface of at least one of the substrate layer and clear coat layer, and thereafter allowing the solvent to evaporate so that the styrenic block copolymer remains as a dried residue thereon.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein said step of interposing the tie layer includes extruding a melt of the styrenic block copolymer styrenic onto at least one of the substrate layer and clear coat layer.

15. The method of claim 12, 13 or 14, comprising blending a tackifier with the styrenic block copolymer prior to interposing the blend between the substrate layer and the clear coat layer.

16. The method of claim 12, wherein said styrenic block copolymer is branched.

17. The method of claim 12, wherein said styrenic block copolymer is linear.

18. The method of claim 12, wherein the tie layer further comprises a blend of said styrenic block copolymer and a tackifier.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the tackifier comprises a terpene resin.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the terpene resin is present in an amount between about 30 wt.% to about 70 wt.% based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and the tackifier.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the terpene resin is present in an amount between about 40 wt.% and 60 wt.% based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and the tackifier.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein each of the tackifier and the styrenic block copolymer is present in an amount of about 50 wt.%, based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and tackifier.

23. The method of claim 12, wherein the substrate layer is a thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO).

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the clear coat layer is a polyvinyl fluoride (PVF).

25. The method of claim 12, wherein the clear coat layer is a polyvinyl fluoride (PVF).

26. A shaped article which includes a laminate according to any one of claims 1-11.

27. The shaped article of claim 23, in the form of an automotive trim component.

28. Automotive trim which comprises as a visible component a laminate comprised of a thermoplastic substrate layer, a clear coat layer, and a tie layer comprised of an adhesive-enhancing effective amount of a styrenic block copolymer which adhesively bonds said substrate and clear coat layers one to another.

29. The automotive trim of claim 28, wherein the substrate layer includes an amount of a colorant so as to impart a predetermined color to the laminate.

30. The automotive trim of claim 29, wherein each of said clear coat and said tie layers is at least 95% transparent to visible light so that the color of the substrate layer is visible therethrough.

31. A tie layer material for adhesively bonding plastic film layers one to another to form a laminate structure thereof, said tie layer material comprising a blend of a linear or branched styrenic block copolymer and a terpene tackifier resin.

32. The tie layer of claim 31, wherein the tackifier resin is present in an amount between about 30 wt.% to about 70 wt.% based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and the tackifier resin.

33. The tie layer of claim 31, wherein the tackifier resin is present in an amount between about 40 wt.% and 60 wt.% based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and the tackifier resin.

34. The tie layer of claim 31, wherein each of the tackifier resin and the styrenic block copolymer is present in an amount of about 50 wt.%, based on the total weight of the styrenic block copolymer and tackifier resin.